



CALPEEK

CALIFORNIA POLITICAL WEEK

P.O. BOX 1468, BEVERLY HILLS, CA 90213 (310)659-0205 FAX(310)657-4340
Dick Rosengarten, Publisher E-Mail calpeek@aol.com

VOL. XIX
No. 41

NOV. 11, 2002

CALIF. ELECTION RESULTS

Editor's note: Next week we'll do one of your favorite columns: *CALPEEK's Winners & Losers*. And we'll provide much more election analysis – focusing not only on Statewide races, but also on many local contests which we're not able to cover in this particular issue. For now, here are the results with some preliminary analysis. FYI: the week of Nov. 18th *Calpeek* publisher Dick Rosengarten will be reporting for jury duty. We'll get a newsletter out (somehow), but it might be a day late. Just giving you that advanced warning now...

POLITICAL OVERVIEW

● **Voter Turnout** – As predicted, there was a record low voter turnout in Calif. As of 10 a.m. Nov. 6th, the turnout was **44.8%** (6,868,358) out of 15,303,469 registered to vote. Sources in the CA Secretary of State's office estimate there are between 500,000 and 700,000 *absentee and provisional ballots* yet to be counted. Once those ballots are counted, the turnout will go up 3-5 points. FYI: SOS Bill Jones(R) had estimated Calif.'s turnout at 58%...

...Some examples of low voter turnout in selected counties: Alameda 45.2%; L.A. 41%; Orange 45.5%; San Bernardino 43.7%; S.F. 42.3%; Riverside 43.9%; and Fresno 40.7%...

...So who didn't turn out to vote? Here in Calif. it appears that the Demo base wasn't as energized as the Republican Party base. Sources just aren't sure who did not show up. However, it appears as though Latino & Black voters + women may have turned out in lower numbers than expected, not only in Calif., but in the southern U.S., especially the Carolinas and Georgia, where the GOP made some solid gains...

● **The U.S. Picture** – Nationally, there's no doubt Pres. George W. Bush was the big winner Nov. 5th. His popularity carried the day for Republicans. And even though he didn't come back to Calif., the Calif. GOP base was energized just by seeing him on tv these past 10 days – during his non-stop campaigning for U.S. Senate & House candidates – using the *War on Terror* and replacing the current Iraqi government as his key issues. No telling what would have happened if Pres. Bush had made one more trip to Calif. in the closing days of the campaign...

... Just briefly, the GOP recaptured the U.S. Senate and increased their margin in the U.S. House. The only bright spot for the

Demos was a pick up in a number of State governors. Unlike the 1994 GOP blowout of the Demos, this was more like 1986, just a late surge in one direction...

...Nationally, the Demos didn't have a message that clicked with voters. They were against a number of Bush policies, but that's not good enough. There's already an internal battle underway for the *heart & soul* of the Demo Party to see which direction to go: to the left or to the center. Demo U.S. House leader Dick Gephardt has stepped down and pressure is building on U.S. Senate minority leader Tom Daschle to do the same...

● **Demo GOTV in Calif.** – Had it not been for the \$7-10 million CA Demo Party/Gov. Davis/labor GOTV effort, at least 1 and perhaps 2 statewide Demo winners might have been beaten by their GOP rivals. It's the only thing which saved the Demos here in Calif....

● **Greens in Calif.** – As a political party, Calif. Greens did much better than expected. Gubernatorial candidate Peter J. Camejo pulled 345,608 votes. The Green Party registration is only 1% in Calif., but in some strong Demo counties, the Green party candidates (not just Camejo) were eating into Demo voting margins. Instead of ignoring the Greens, CDP Chair Art Torres had better come up with a strategy for hammering them...

GOVERNOR

...It wasn't pretty and turned out to be closer than the pundits and Demo pollsters predicted, but Gov. Gray Davis(D) was re-elected to a 2nd term with **47.4%** vs. **42.4%** for GOP challenger Bill Simon Jr. Thus one of Calif.'s most unpopular chief executives won reelection over a guy who had he run an adequate campaign with no key blunders, might have won. Instead, Simon's campaign was plagued by one screw up after another and in the view of GOP consultant Arnie Steinberg "awarded the election to Davis by default." And in Steinberg's opinion, the money disadvantage was overplayed by *Team Simon*. "The Davis numbers were so awful, and voter impressions of him so negative and entrenched, that a campaign against him never needed to match Davis dollar for dollar." Best guess is that Davis spent \$60-65 million...

...If one looks at a map of Calif., it divides *East* (Simon) vs. *West* (Davis). In southern Calif., Davis took only two(2) counties: L.A. and Imperial; and he won the populous S.F. Bay area. But

CALIFORNIA POLITICAL WEEK (ISSN 0195-6175) IS AN INDEPENDENT, NONPARTISAN NEWS ANALYSIS BULLETIN OF CALIFORNIA POLITICAL WEEK, INC., A CALIFORNIA CORPORATION. TELEPHONE: (310)659-0205. ADDRESS: P.O. BOX 1468, BEVERLY HILLS, CA 90213. \$90/YEAR. PUBLISHED WEEKLY, 44 WEEKS PER YEAR. COPYRIGHTED BY CALIFORNIA POLITICAL WEEK, INC. THIS TRADEMARK REGISTERED WITH THE CALIF. SECRETARY OF STATE. REPRODUCTION IN WHOLE OR IN PART REQUIRES EXPRESS PERMISSION. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED. 1ST CLASS POSTAGE PAID AT LOS ANGELES.

CALPEEK – P.O. BOX 1468, BEVERLY HILLS, CA 90213

Davis did lose to Simon in *Sacramento Co.* (usually a bellwether county). In Sacto, it was Davis 41.6% vs. Simon 45.6%, with Camejo at 7.1%...

...Remember what we said about the Greens. Most of Camejo's vote came from White liberals. In S.F., Camejo won 16.0% of the vote. Camejo might have done even better, especially with Latino voters, had it not been for the aggressive GOTV effort by the UFW on behalf of Davis. This GOTV effort, aimed at Latinos, cut Camejo off and pumped up Davis' numbers along the Central Coast and kept Davis close in the Central Valley...

THE DOWN BALLOT RACES

...If the numbers continue to hold, the Democrats will have swept all of the partisan constitutional offices. This hasn't happened in a long time and several of the contests were very close. Here's our analysis...

■ **Controller** – This was the closest down ballot contest in this cycle. Currently, Demo businessman/teacher Steve Westly holds a slim 45.4% vs. 45.0% lead over GOP State Sen. Tom McClintock. That translates to a lead of 24,000+ votes as of 10 a.m. on 11/6. Demo sources think Westly will hold on, but we'll have to wait and see. Westly was holding a slim 43% to 41% lead in late tracking polls, with the rest undecided. Again, the Green Party appears to have played a key role in making this a tight race. Laura Wells(G) got 5.8% (371,940 votes) and took 10.7% of the vote in S.F., 9.8% in Alameda and 12.9% in Santa Cruz, all Demo strongholds. McC won Sacto (bellwether) with 46.4% vs. 44.3% for Westly. FYI: the Calif. Republican Party (CRP) in the last 10 days gave LG candidate Bruce McPherson and SOS candidate Keith Olberg \$265,000 each. The CRP also gave \$1.2 million to Insurance Commissioner candidate Gary Mendoza. What did McC get from the CRP? \$100,000 – and when McC found out he'd been short changed, he screamed. He got another \$50-Gs, but in looking at all of the down ballot GOP candidates, McC should have been given the most because he had the best shot of winning. The \$265-Gs for McPherson was a waste. So why did the CRP short change McC? It might have been because McC has his share of GOP enemies and if memory serves us, McC wasn't a Bush supporter in the 2000 Calif. presidential primary. More next week...

■ **Lt. Governor** – Incumbent LG Cruz Bustamante(D) won reelection with 49.5% vs. 41.7% for GOP State Sen. Bruce McPherson of Santa Cruz. Again, Green Party candidate Donna Warren(G) cut into Bustamante's total, getting 271,402 raw votes (4.2%). In S.F., Warren got 14.5%; 8.9% in Sonoma; 8.3% in Santa Cruz. McPherson's tv was fair, but there was some criticism of his negative "bobble head Cruz in the car" tv ad. It was a little too cute. Bustamante's tv may have been lousy (in the view of many Calpeek sources), but the unfocused ads were played numerous time...

■ **Attorney General** – Without spending a dime on tv ads, incumbent AG Bill Lockyer(D) led the Demo ticket with 51.4% (3,298,663 raw votes) over under funded GOP State Sen. Dick

Ackerman, who got 40.3%. Lockyer even won in Sacto with 50.3% vs. 41.5% for Ackerman. Bottomline: Lockyer saved most of his \$7 million + warchest for 2006...

■ **CA Treasurer** – Incumbent Treasurer Phil Angelides(D) didn't use tv either – or if he did it was minimal. Angelides got 49.4% vs. 40.5% for former PUC member Greg Conlon(R). Green Party candidate Jeanne-Marie Rosenmeier got 5%. Like Lockyer, Angelides decided to save most of his \$6 million warchest for 2006. FYI: Angelides carried Sacto 49.9% to 41.3%...

■ **Secretary of State** – Assemblyman Kevin Shelley(D) was probably outspent by his GOP rival, former Assemblyman Keith Olberg of Victorville. And going into the final week of the campaign, the two were locked in a close race. The Demo GOTV was probably a key factor in Shelley's win. He got 46.3% vs. 42.3% for Olberg. In raw numbers, it was a win of about 260,000+ votes. The Green Party candidate, Laurence Shoup, got 3.9%. Olberg beat Shelley in Sacto Co...

■ **Insurance Commissioner** – Of all the GOP down ballot candidates, former L.A. Deputy Mayor Gary Mendoza was perhaps the most attractive among the Republicans. He's a moderate Latino who had the potential for winning cross-over votes. He was just running for the wrong office and against the former IC himself, John Garamendi(D). Some sources think Garamendi's many :15-sec. tv spots were the best in this cycle. Garamendi won with 46.6% vs. 41.6% for Mendoza...

■ **Supt. of Public Instruction** – This was a non-partisan contest between State Sen. Jack O'Connell of Santa Barbara and conservative Anaheim High School trustee Katherine Smith. O'Connell won with 61.8% vs. 38.2% for Smith. Because the contest is non-partisan, there were no other candidates in this race...

■ **The Calif. Supremes** – All three CA Supreme Court Associates Justices won reconfirmation to the State's high court. Justice Kathryn Werdegar got 73.8%; Justice Carlos Moreno got 72.5%; and Justice Marvin Baxter got 71.3%...

■ **Board of Equalization** – No surprises here. Dist. #1 Carole Migden(D) won with 60.6%; Dist. #2 Bill Leonard(R) won with 58.4%; Dist. #3 incumbent Claude Parrish(R) won with 58.7%; and Dist. #4 incumbent John Chiang(D) won with 63.5%...

STATEWIDE BALLOT PROPOSITIONS

◆ **Prop. 46** – The \$2.1 billion Housing & Emergency Shelter bond won with 57.5%. It's the first time voters have approved a housing bond in 12 years. The last time was Prop. 107 in 1990 (\$150 million housing bond). Nice win for consultant Steve Glazer. The tv campaign (\$1.25 million buy over 6 days) used a non-traditional black & white format...

◆ **Prop. 47** – Another win for Woodward & McDowell. This was the huge \$13 billion K-University facilities bond. It won with 58.9%. Lots of tv ads and most all of the newspaper editorials sided with YES on 47. There wasn't much opposition at all...

● **Prop. 48** – Court consolidation. A house cleaning measure with no opposition. It won with 72.4%...

◆ **Prop. 49** – This was the *Before & After Schools* initiative sponsored by actor Arnold Schwarzenegger. It won with 56.6%. That's almost what the *L.A. Times* poll showed in their last survey. The big question: how quickly will Schwarzenegger move to position himself for a 2006 run for governor? Answer: very fast...

● **Prop. 50** – This is the \$3.4 billion water bond measure. It struggled for a while, but on election day won with 55.4%. The tv ad featuring a fireman as the spokesperson was one of the better tv ads...

◆ **Prop. 51** – This is the initiative which proposed to use motor vehicle sales and use taxes for 50 different transportation projects. Ballot box budgeting. The YES on 51 team had a very good tv ad on for 7 days, but the negatives news coverage about how the Planning & Conservation League raised funds to pay for the campaign, led to almost no editorial support in the newspapers. Still, going into the final days, it was a close call. On a shoe string budget, consultant Joel Fox and Calif. Tax Reform Assn. executive Lenny Goldberg gathered just enough \$\$\$ to buy some key slates. But that's all they had. Final vote: NO 58.7% vs. 41.3% for YES on 51. Big win on a tiny budget...

● **Prop. 52** – EDVR – Election Day Voter Registration. In concept not a bad idea, but the devil was in the details of this initiative, which supporters said would hike voter turnout in years to come. We won't find out if that's true, because despite spending millions of dollars on pretty good tv ads, YES got only 40.7% vs. 59.3% for NO on 52. The NO side kept pounding away that the wording of 52 was flawed – the key argument: voter fraud. NO on 52 had lots of slates and some radio. Another case of a big win on a tiny budget...

U.S. HOUSE CONTESTS

...Going into this election, the Calif. U.S. House delegation was split 32(D) vs. 20(R). After the election it's 33(D) vs. 20(R). Some interesting races, but because of reapportionment, no real excitement. Here's a brief update...

☒ **18th CD** – This seat was put out of GOP reach when the Demos registered 23,650 new voters vs. 3,865 for the GOP. Assemblyman Dennis Cardoza(D-Modesto) an easy winner over GOP State Sen. Dick Montieth. Cardoza 52% vs. 42.9% for Montieth. The anti-Cardoza efforts by the Condit kids

had no impact. Nice win for Demo consultant Townsend, Raimundo, Besler & Usher...

☒ **39th CD** – An easy win in this new CD for Linda Sanchez(D), sister of U.S. Rep. Loretta Sanchez(D) of Orange Co. Sanchez beat GOPer Tim Escobar by a 55.1% to 40.6% margin. Now Linda and Loretta are the first sisters to serve together in the U.S. House...

☒ **46th CD** – No sweat for U.S. Rep. Dana Rohrabacher (R-Huntington Beach), as he easily turned back a noisy campaign from Demo Gerrie Schipske. Dana got 61.6% vs. 34.7% for Schipske...

☒ **53rd CD** – A late rumor that freshman U.S. Rep. Susan Davis(D-San Diego) might have a tough time winning re-election. Not so. Davis got 62.6%...

☒ **23rd CD** – U.S. Rep. Lois Capps(D-Santa Barbara) won big over GOPer Beth Rogers (59.1% vs. 38.5%)...

CALIF. LEGISLATIVE RACES

...If you save your old **Calpeeks**, go back to our Sept. 23rd issue. In that first update on Legislative races, we said there was only one State Senate race which was competitive (12th SD) and only 5-6 competitive Assembly contests. And we also said Demos would either pick up 1-2 seats or lose that same amount. The current State Senate lineup is 26(D) and 14(R). Right now former Demo Assemblyman Rusty Areias holds a very slim 47.9% to 47.7% lead over GOP Jeff Denham. In raw votes Areias is ahead by 226. This SD covers 5 counties so we'll just have to wait until all the A/Bs and provisional ballots are counted. **Calpeek** called this contest a toss up and it remains that way...

...In the State Assembly, the current lineup is 50(D) vs. 30(R). The new lineup will probably be 48(D) vs. 32(R). Here's a brief update...

◆ **10th, 15th & 26th ADs Stay GOP** – The Demos had targeted these 3 ADs, but they really didn't come close in any of these races. Last minute GOP surges (energized base). Big disappointment for Demo Donna Gerber in the 15th AD, who probably had the best chance to pull an upset against former Dublin Mayor Guy Houston...

◆ **17th AD** – The one "endangered" Demo incumbent was Barbara Matthews. Despite everything the GOP threw at her, Matthews won rather easily: 56.4% vs. 43.6% for GOP attorney Brian McCabe...

◆ **78th AD & 80th AD: Demo Loses** – As noted in our *Election Preview*, GOPer Shirley Horton was running dead even with Demo Vince Hall. Hall lost narrowly: 47.4% to 49.6%. This seat had been held by Demo Howard Wayne. The other Demo loss was in the new 80th AD, created to offset

CALPEEK – P.O. BOX 1468, BEVERLY HILLS, CA 90213

the shifting of the 26th AD to a lean GOP AD. Here legislative aide Bonnie Garcia(R) got 51.2% against Demo Joey Acuna (48.8%)...

◆ **30th AD** – Although she's ahead, Demo Nicole Parra of Kern Co. is holding a very slim lead over GOPer Dean Gardner. It's Parra 25,005 vs. Gardner at 24,530. We'll have to wait for A/Bs and provisionals. FYI: some sources think this is one contest in which Simon had coattails...

LOCAL CONTESTS

● **Secession in L.A. City Loses** – No shock here as both Prop. F (San Fernando Valley) and Prop. H (Hollywood) were soundly defeated citywide. F in the citywide vote got only 33.07% vs. 66.93% NO. H in the citywide vote got only 28.65% vs. NO at 71.35%. GOP Assemblyman Keith Richmond got 52.09%, but as F was defeated, he won't be the San Fernando Valley City's new mayor. The main NO on F/H campaign (Mayor Jim Hahn's *L.A. United*) may go over the \$8 million mark vs. only \$800,000 for YES on F. The next few months will be critical in terms of healing wounds and making some real effort to address complaints of the secessionists – particularly the San Fernando Valley crowd. What might be done? Neighborhood councils with clout and a break up of the huge LAUSD, Valley sources tell Calpeek...

● **½ Cent Sales Tax for Transportation** – There were 5 different counties (Riverside, Solano, Fresno, Merced and Madera) which placed ½ cent sales tax hikes for transportation funding on the ballot. All needed a 2/3rds vote. Only one passed: Riverside Co. The YES on A campaign was run by Sacto-based Townsend, Raimundo, Besler & Usher...

● **Prop. D in S.F.** – Voters in San Francisco said NO to Prop. D, a measure which would have created a new S.F. PUC with the authority to sell bonds (w/o a public vote) for the purpose of buying out PG&E's power plants in S.F. NO on D got 52.8% vs. 47.17% YES. NO on D, with major funding from PG&E, spent about the same amount as they did a year ago: \$2.1 million. A nice win for Solem & Associates. FYI: polling in late October by SA Opinion Research (Solem Assoc.) showed NO at 52% vs. YES at 48%. Right on the nose...

● **Prop. B in L.A. County** – This local ballot measure was aimed at saving the county's 13 fiscally-troubled trauma and emergency rooms by hiking the property taxes. Without the increase, L.A. Co. Supes said they would have to begin shutting down parts of the system. It needed a 2/3rds vote to pass and got 73.2%. A big win for L.A. Co. Sup. Zev Yaroslavsky, author of the Prop. B, and a nice win for consultant Rick Taylor...

● **Prop. JJ in Santa Monica** – The so-called Living Wage referendum in Santa Monica went down to defeat by a 51.43% NO vs. 48.57% YES vote. Hotels and restaurants within the coastal area of Santa Monica were subject to this big hike in

the minimum wage (up to \$10.25 per hour). However, hotels and restaurants not in the coastal area and hotels and restaurants which were unionized, were exempt. The NO on JJ campaign attacked the new law as unfair and unequal. It worked. The Dolphin Group handled NO on JJ...

● **Prop. A in S.F.** – This was the huge \$1.6 billion bond to repair and upgrade the Hetch Hetchy water system which supplies water to 2.4 million users in S.F., San Mateo and Santa Clara counties. It passed by a 53.65% to 46.35% margin. Storefront Political Media handled the campaign. More analysis and local contests next week. Stay tuned...

CALPEEK'S CALENDAR OF POLITICAL EVENTS

Nov. 14	Election Post-Mortem Conf., USC, Taper Hall, Rm. 202, L.A. Conf. begins at 7 p.m.
Nov. 14	Pat Brown Inst.'s 10 th annual Calif. Policy Issues Conf., 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m., Wilshire Grand Hotel, L.A.
Nov. 17-21	IAPC annual conference, Rio de Janeiro.
Dec. 3-7	Nat'l League of Cities, Salt Lake City, UT
Jan. 15-18	AAPC annual conference, Wash. DC

CALPEEK'S INFOBAHN: POLITICAL SHORT TAKES.

Editor's note: Here are a few items, political & otherwise, worth noting...

■ **Conf. on Building Civil Society** – Sponsored by the Pat Brown Inst. of Public Affairs will host its 10th annual Calif. Policy Issues conference, 8:30 a.m. to 3:15 p.m., Nov. 14th at the Wilshire Grand Hotel in L.A. Guest speakers and presenters include Oakland Mayor Jerry Brown, Assemblywoman Judy Chu, L.A. Councilwoman Wendy Greuel, senior energy advisor to the governor Richard Katz, and Marie Moretti of Gov. Davis' office. The conference is titled *Building a Civil Society: Separate Geographies, Shared Destinies*. For info (323)343-3770...

CALPEEK'S MARKETPLACE NETWORK

● **L.A. based public affairs firm** is hiring entry and mid level professionals to join our team. Candidates should have strong writing skills and an interest in planning and public affairs. Bilingual is a plus. Email or fax resume to: Acrump@consensusp.com or FAX (213)438-1764.

CALPEEK's Marketplace Network is a listing of employer and employee availabilities for those engaged in campaign consulting, public affairs, public relations, government relations and legislative advocacy. The cost for each listing is \$25 for up to 40 words. Send ad copy with payment (no invoicing) to CALPEEK, Attn: Marketplace Network, P.O. Box 1468, Beverly Hills, CA 90213. For info ☎(310)659-0205...